

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

- 1 1. A method, comprising:
2 acquiring network service information regarding broadcast service content to
3 be broadcast by a broadcast service system over a predetermined period of time;
4 creating a composite content list including meta-data describing service
5 provider content available from a service provider system and the broadcast service
6 content to be broadcast by the broadcast service system;
7 rating the service provider and broadcast service content, described by the
8 composite content list; and
9 broadcasting a broadcast schedule for a selected portion of the broadcast
10 service content to the one or more client systems in response to the received ratings,
11 prior to broadcast by the broadcast service system, thereby enabling the one or more
12 client systems to store one or more content data files from the selected portion of the
13 broadcast service content.
- 1 2. The method of claim 1, further comprising:
2 broadcasting the composite content list to one or more client systems;
3 receiving ratings for the service provider and broadcast service content,
4 described by the composite content list from the one or more client systems;
5 selecting a portion of the content data files from the service provider content
6 and the broadcast service content having higher ratings based on the received ratings;
7 determining overlapping content data files as content data files from the
8 selected portion of the broadcast service content and the service provider content to be
9 broadcast by the broadcast service system;
10 eliminating, from the selected portion of the service provider content and the
11 broadcast service content, the overlapping content data files to form a plurality of
12 provider content data files; and
13 broadcasting the plurality of the provider content data files to the one or more
14 client systems.

1 3. The method of claim 2, further comprising broadcasting:
2 broadcasting a composite content broadcast schedule for the composite
3 content list prior to broadcasting the composite content list to the one or more client
4 systems; and
5 broadcasting a provider broadcast schedule for the provider content data files
6 prior to broadcasting the provider content data files.

1 4. The method of claim 1 further comprising:
2 selecting one or more content data files from the selected portion of the
3 broadcast service content; and
4 broadcasting, by the service provider system, the one or more selected content
5 data files to the one or more client systems.

1 5. The method of claim 1 further comprising:
2 receiving compensation for each stored content data file accessed by a user;
3 and
4 dividing the compensation between the service provider system and the
5 broadcast service system based on a source of each content data file, such that the
6 source of the content data file is one of the service provider system and the broadcast
7 service system and receives a larger compensation portion and a non-source receives a
8 smaller compensation portion.

1 6. The method of claim 1, wherein the creating the composite content list
2 further comprises:
3 eliminating content meta-data from the broadcast service content and the
4 network service information that falls into one or more predetermined content
5 categories; and
6 tagging the network service information with a key to enable identification of
7 duplicate content.

1 7. A method, comprising:
2 rating, in response to a content rating table, at least one content data file from
3 service provider content available from a service provider system and broadcast
4 service content to be broadcast by a broadcast service system, as described by a
5 composite content list, the content rating table generated responsive to a user;
6 receiving a broadcast schedule for a selected portion of the broadcast service
7 content broadcast by the broadcast service system; and
8 when content data files from the selected portion of the broadcast service
9 content are available, based on the broadcast schedule, storing one or more of the
10 content data files based on the content rating table.

1 8. The method of claim 7 further comprising:
2 receiving a provider broadcast schedule for a plurality of provider content data
3 files from the service provider content;
4 receiving the plurality of the provider content data files; and
5 storing, based on the content rating table, one or more content data files from
6 the plurality of the provider content data files.

1 9. The method of claim 7 further comprising:
2 receiving a composite content list including meta-data describing service
3 provider content available from the service provider system and the broadcast service
4 content to be broadcast by the broadcast service system;
5 receiving a broadcast schedule for the composite content list broadcast by the
6 service provider system, the client system activated in response to the broadcast
7 schedule; and
8 transmitting the ratings of the at least one content data file from the service
9 provider content and broadcast service content to the service provider system.

1 10. The method of claim 7, wherein the storing the one or more content
2 data files further comprises:
3 siphoning MPEG data representing each of the one or more content data files
4 from a decode stage of an MPEG content transport stream;

5 storing elementary streams and attendant data from the siphoned MPEG data;
6 encoding the stored streams and data into packetized element streams;
7 re-multiplexing the packetized element streams into a captured content
8 transport stream; and
9 storing the captured content transport stream into a secondary cache to enable
10 playback, by a user, of the one or more content data files represented by the captured
11 content transport stream.

1 11. The method of claim 7, wherein the storing the one or more content
2 data files further comprises:
3 capturing the one or more content data files using content capture functionality
4 of the client platform;
5 encoding the captured content data files into packetized element streams; and
6 storing the packetized element stream into a secondary cache to enable
7 playback, by a user, of the one or more content data files represented by the
8 packetized element streams.

1 12. An apparatus, comprising:
2 a processor having circuitry to execute instructions;
3 a communications interface coupled to the processor, the communications
4 interface to broadcast data to one or more client systems, and to receive data from the
5 one or more client systems;
6 a storage device coupled to the processor, having sequences of instructions
7 stored therein, which when executed by the processor cause the processor to:
8 acquire network service information regarding broadcast service
9 content to be broadcast by a broadcast service system over a predetermined period of
10 time,
11 create a composite content list including meta-data describing service
12 provider content available from a service provider system and the broadcast service
13 content to be broadcast by the broadcast service system,
14 broadcast the composite content list to one or more client systems,

15 rate the service provider and broadcast service content described by the
16 composite content list, and
17 broadcast a broadcast schedule for a selected portion of the broadcast
18 service content to the one or more client systems in response to the received ratings,
19 prior to broadcast by the broadcast service, to enable the one or more client systems to
20 store one or more content data files from the selected portion of the broadcast service
21 content.

1 13. The apparatus of claim 12 wherein the processor is further caused to:
2 broadcast the composite content list to one or more client systems,
3 receive ratings for the service provider and broadcast service content described
4 by the composite content list from the one or more client systems,
5 select one or more content data files from the selected portion of the broadcast
6 service content, and
7 broadcast, by the service provider system, the one or more selected content
8 data files to the one or more client systems.

1 14. The apparatus of claim 12 wherein the processor is further caused to:
2 select a portion of the content data files from the service provider content and
3 the broadcast service content having higher ratings based on the received ratings;
4 determine overlapping content data file as content data files from the portion
5 of the broadcast service content and the service provider content to be broadcast by
6 the broadcast service system;
7 eliminate, from the selected portion of the service provider content and the
8 broadcast service content, the overlapping content data files to form a plurality of
9 provider content data files; and
10 broadcast the plurality of the provider content data files to the one or more
11 client systems in response to the received ratings.

1 15. The apparatus of claim 12 wherein the instruction to create a
2 composite content list further causes the processor to:
3 eliminate content meta-data from the broadcast service content and the
4 network service information that falls into one or more predetermined content
5 categories; and
6 tag the network service information with a key to enable identification of
7 duplicate content.

1 16. The apparatus of claim 12 wherein the processor is further caused to:
2 broadcast a broadcast schedule for the composite content list prior to
3 broadcasting the composite content list to the one or more client systems; and
4 broadcast a provider broadcast schedule for the plurality of the provider
5 content data prior to broadcasting the plurality of the provider content data files.

1 17. An apparatus, comprising:
2 a processor having circuitry to execute instructions;
3 a communications interface coupled to the processor, the communications
4 interface to receive data broadcast from a service provider system, and to transmit
5 data to the service provider system;
6 a storage device coupled to the processor, having sequences of instructions
7 stored therein, which when executed by the processor cause the processor to:
8 rate, in response to a content rating table, at least one content data file
9 from service provider content available from the service provider system and the
10 broadcast service content to be broadcast by a broadcast service system, as described
11 by a composite content list, the content rating table generated responsive to a user,
12 receive a broadcast schedule for a selected portion of the broadcast
13 service content broadcast by the broadcast service system, and
14 when content data files from the selected portion of the broadcast
15 service content are available based on the broadcast service broadcast schedule, store
16 one or more of the content data files based on the content rating table.

1 18. The apparatus of claim 17 wherein the processor is further caused to:
2 receive a service provider broadcast schedule for a plurality of provider
3 content data files;
4 receive the plurality of the provider content data files; and
5 store, based on the content rating table, one or more content data files from the
6 plurality of the provider content data file.

1 19. The apparatus of claim 17 wherein the processor is further caused to:
2 receive a composite content list including meta-data describing service
3 provider content available from the service provider system and the broadcast service
4 content to be broadcast by the broadcast service system;
5 receive a broadcast schedule for the composite content list broadcast by the
6 service provider system, the client system activated in response to the broadcast
7 schedule; and
8 transmit the ratings of the at least one content data file from the service
9 provider content and broadcast service content to the service provider system.

1 20. The apparatus of claim 17, wherein the instruction to store the one or
2 more content data files further causes the processor to:
3 siphon MPEG data representing each of the one or more content data files
4 from a decode stage of an MPEG content transport stream;
5 store elementary streams and attendant data from the siphoned MPEG data;
6 encode the stored streams and data into a packetized element stream;
7 re-multiplex the packetized element streams into a captured content transport
8 stream; and
9 store the captured content transport stream into a secondary cache to enable
10 playback, by a user, of one or more content data files represented by the captured
11 content transport stream.

1 21. The apparatus of claim 19, wherein the instruction to store the one or
2 more content data files further causes the processor to:
3 capture the one or more content data files using content capture functionality
4 of the client platform;
5 encode the captured content data file into packetized element streams; and
6 store the packetized element streams into a secondary cache to enable
7 playback, by a user, of the one or more content data files represented by the
8 packetized element streams.

1 22. A machine-readable medium having instructions stored thereon, which
2 when executed by a processor cause the processor to:
3 acquire network service information regarding broadcast service content to be
4 broadcast by a broadcast service system over a predetermined period of time;
5 create a composite content list including meta-data describing service provider
6 content available from a service provider system and the broadcast service content to
7 be broadcast by the broadcast service system;
8 rate the service provider and broadcast service content, described by the
9 composite content list; and
10 broadcast a broadcast schedule for a selected portion of the broadcast service
11 content to the one or more client systems in response to the received ratings, prior to
12 broadcast by the broadcast service system, thereby enabling the one or more client
13 systems to store one or more content data files from the selected portion of broadcast
14 service content.

1 23. The machine-readable medium of claim 22 wherein the processor is
2 further caused to:
3 broadcast the composite content list to one or more client systems,
4 receive ratings for the service provider and broadcast service content described
5 by the composite content list from the one or more client systems,
6 select a portion of the content data files from the service provider content and
7 the broadcast service content having higher ratings based on the received ratings;

8 determine overlapping content data files as content data files from the selected
9 portion of the broadcast service content and the service provider content to be
10 broadcast by the broadcast service system;
11 eliminate, from the selected portion of the service provider content and the
12 broadcast service content, the overlapping content data files to form a plurality of
13 provider content data files; and
14 broadcast the plurality of the provider content data files to the one or more
15 client systems.

1 24. The machine-readable medium of claim 22 wherein the processor is
2 further caused to:
3 receive ratings for the service provider and broadcast service content,
4 described by the composite content list, from the one or more client systems; and
5 combine the ratings received from the one or more client systems, if ratings
6 are received from more than one client system, to generate an overall ratings list of
7 the service provider and broadcast service content data files.

1 25. A machine-readable medium having instructions stored thereon, which
2 when executed by a processor cause the processor to:
3 rate, in response to a content rating table, at least one content data file from
4 service provider content available from a service provider system and the broadcast
5 service content to be broadcast by a broadcast service system, as described by a
6 composite content list, the content rating table generated responsive to a user;
7 receive a broadcast schedule for a selected portion of the broadcast service
8 content broadcast by the broadcast service system; and
9 when content data files from the selected portion of the broadcast service
10 content are available, based on the broadcast schedule, store one or more of the
11 content data files based on the content rating table.

26. The machine-readable medium of claim 25 wherein the processor is further caused to:

- receive a composite content list including meta-data describing the service provider content available from the service provider system and the broadcast service content to be broadcast by the broadcast service system;
- transmit the ratings of the at least one content data file from the service provider content and broadcast service content to the service provider system;
- receive a provider broadcast schedule for a plurality of provider content data files;
- receive the plurality of the provider content data files; and
- store, based on the content rating table, one or more content data files from the plurality of the provider content data files.

27. The machine-readable medium of claim 25 wherein the instruction to store one or more of the content data files further causes the processor to:

- siphon MPEG data representing each of the one or more content data files from a decode stage of an MPEG content transport stream;
- store elementary streams and attendant data from the siphoned MPEG data;
- encode the stored streams and data into packetized element streams;
- re-multiplex the packetized element streams into a captured content transport stream; and
- store the captured content transport stream into a secondary cache to enable playback, by a user, of the one or more content data files represented by the captured content transport stream.

1 28. A system, comprising:
2 a service provider broadcast server; and
3 one or more client systems coupled to the service provider broadcast server,
4 wherein the one or more client systems rate, in response to a content
5 rating table, one or more content data files described by a composite content list, the
6 content rating table generated responsive to content data files previously accessed and
7 the composite content list including meta-data describing service provider content
8 available from a service provider system and broadcast service content to be broadcast
9 by a broadcast service system,
10 wherein the one or more client systems transmit, to the service
11 provider broadcast server, the ratings of the content data files from the composite
12 content list,
13 wherein the service provider system selects a portion of the content
14 data files from the service provider content and the broadcast service content in
15 response to the ratings received from the one or more client systems,
16 wherein the service provider system further broadcasts a broadcast
17 schedule for the selected portion of the broadcast service content to the one or more
18 client systems, prior to broadcast by the broadcast service system, to enable the one or
19 more client systems to store one or more content data files from the selected portion
20 of broadcast service content, and
21 wherein the service provider broadcast server further broadcasts the
22 selected portion of the service provider content to the one or more client systems.

1 29. The system of claim 28:
2 wherein each one of the one or more client systems receive content data files
3 from the selected portion of the broadcast service content; and
4 wherein the one or more client systems store one or more of the content data
5 files from the selected portion of the broadcast service content in response to a content
6 rating table associated with each respective one of the one or more client systems.

1 30. The system of claim 28:
2 wherein each one of the one or more client systems receive content data files
3 from the selected portion of the service provider content, and
4 wherein the one or more client systems store one or more of the content data
5 files from the selected portion of the service provider content in response to a content
6 rating table associated with each respective one of the one or more client systems.

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